



**RE: HB 2787, Tuition Equity**  
The Honorable Mark Hass  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Hass and Members of the Education and Workforce Development Committee,

The Oregon Student Association encourages your support of House Bill 2787, more commonly known as Tuition Equity.

The Oregon Student Association is a coalition of student governments dedicated to the representation, service, and protection of the collective interests of over 100,000 students in postsecondary education. Our mission is to advocate for more affordable and accessible higher education for all Oregonians.

Tuition equity is good for Oregon.

The Oregon Student Association believes passing tuition equity will add money to strapped university budgets, open access to education, and help create the highly skilled workforce Oregon needs. As our general fund continues to dwindle, we must take proactive steps to ensure that we're educating as much of our future workforce as possible.

An educated workforce will not only provide more tax dollars for the state, but will help draw in businesses seeking cutting edge, highly skilled employees.

The fact of the matter is that while Oregon is federally mandated to provide a K-12 education for all children, regardless of documentation status, there is no such plan for post-secondary education. We need to capitalize on Oregon's investment in all K-12 students.

Tuition Equity isn't about granting special privileges or exceptions. It's simply a matter of ensuring that every Oregonian who wishes to pursue an education is able to do so, free of unfairly prohibitive economic sanctions.

That is the crux of our public higher education system, and a belief shared by our state's founders.

Now is Oregon's chance to join fourteen other states who have passed similar legislation to ensure that their original investment in undocumented students will yield greater returns in the future.

We support Tuition Equity because we don't want to see Oregon's educational investment go to waste.

We strongly encourage you to support it as well – vote "yes" on HB 2787.

Sincerely,  
Members of the Oregon Student Association

**Oregon Student Association**  
**PHONE: (503) 286-0477 | FAX: (503) 286-0924**  
635 NE Dekum St. Portland, OR 97211